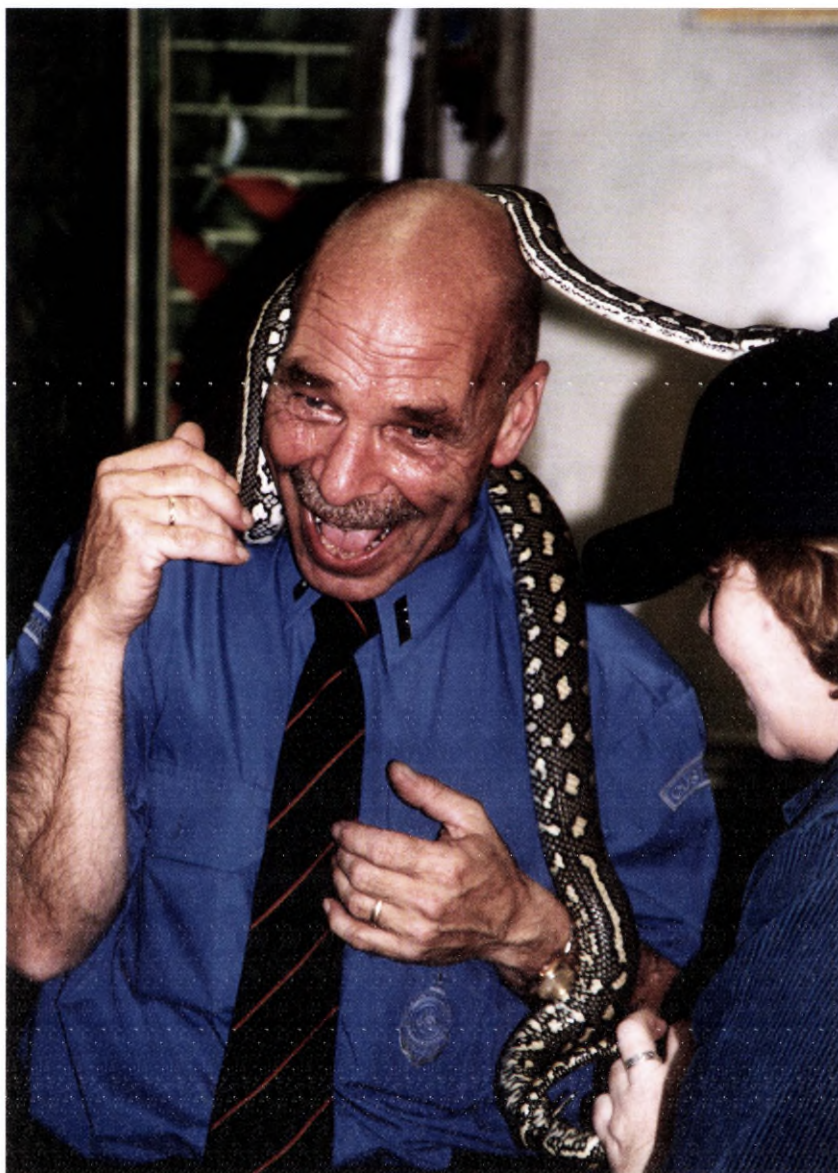


Sebastian says thanks

WINNER



With this image, Merran Teale, from Sydney, won the Australian section of a World Customs Organization 50th anniversary staff photo competition about Customs life.

It is fellow Customs officer Roland de Beer in an up close and personal encounter with Sebastian the carpet python while visiting Taronga Park Zoo to hand over some good seized under CITES regulations. Sebastian was so pleased at the work being done by Customs to protect his less fortunate cousins that he just had to give Roland a big hug.

Merran's photo was selected because it demonstrated the diversity of things that a Customs officer could be involved with in his or her daily duties. The WCO guidelines for the competition stated that the picture chosen should bring out the humour, poetry, problems, risks and even emotions of a Customs officer's work.

The judges decided that this photograph best met the criteria. Merran's photograph was forwarded to the WCO to be part of the international judging. Three winners were to be invited to Brussels by the Secretary-General during the council sessions in June. Travel and daily allowances associated with the award were to be met by the WCO.

At the time of preparation of this issue of *Manifest*, no results of the international competition were available.